



# Green Light

Published Bi-Monthly by the  
Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad  
Vol. 39 No 6 Nov.-Dec., 1978



# Green Light

November-December, 1978  
Vol. 39 No. 6

Jeanne Gustafson, Editor

Member

Association of Railroad Editors,  
International Association of  
Business Communicators and  
Colorado Association of  
Business Communications

Published Bi Monthly by the  
Denver & Rio Grande

Western R. R.

Tower One—Park Central  
1515 Arapahoe St., P.O. Box 5482  
Denver, Colorado 80217



## 102nd Birthday Observed!

T. R. Woodrow, retired attorney, reached his 102nd year on Friday, October 13. Mr. Woodrow is the oldest living member of the Colorado Bar Association, the oldest alumni of the University of Michigan Law School, and the oldest living retiree of the Rio Grande Railroad to our knowledge. Can anyone top Mr. Woodrow's age? If so, we'd like to hear from you. Congratulations and best wishes, Mr. Woodrow — you are really a Grande Action Man!

## On the Covers

For the first time in 25 years, D&RGW Locomotive 318 is all fired up and running again at the Colorado Railroad Museum east of Golden, Colorado. Engine 318 was the last engine on the Pagosa Springs Branch before its close in 1936. A 2-8-0 type locomotive, the 318 was built in 1896 for the Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad and purchased by the D&RGW in 1917.

Engine 318 was returned to service by the endeavors of a group of volunteers led by Dirk Ramsey, apprentice machinist, Burnham Shops. The Class 3 overhaul included disassembly, boiler inspection, refluing, relagging, rewiring, repiping and a new frame under the tender tank. The engine operated several weekends during 1978, pulling a trainload of many children and adults who had never seen a steam locomotive in action.

Despite the snow and freezing temperatures, the largest crowds appeared on the weekend following Thanksgiving. Billowing clouds of smoke and steam, the 318 pulled a coach and Rio Grande Southern caboose around the museum's trackage, providing rides for hundreds of people on this memorable weekend.

Dirk says his next project will be Rio Grande Consolidation #346, which he hopes to get back into running condition to provide doubleheaded steam in 1979 or 1980. Dirk would welcome assistance from any Rio Grande action people who would like to offer their skills in this project. Contact him at Burnham or visit the Colorado Railroad Museum, 17155 W. 44th Avenue near Golden.

Photographs by Tom Vesey, Mechanical Department, Burnham.



## ANNUAL RETIREMENT DINNERS PLANNED

Arrangements for the Annual Retirement Dinners for employees retiring during the year 1978 have been made and dates set as follows:

Grand Junction — January 13, 1979  
— 6:30 P.M. Holiday Inn

Pueblo — January 20, 1979 — 6:30 P.M.  
Ramada Inn

Salt Lake City — January 27, 1979  
— 6:30 P.M. Prudential Plaza

Denver — January 29, 1979 — 6:30 P.M.  
Marriott Hotel



Newly elected officers of the Rio Grande System Veterans Club are shown being congratulated by Past President Louis Duran, left to right: President J. C. Cowley; Vice President-West Claude Argyle; Vice President-East John Schoening; Secretary-Treasurer W. E. Easley.

## Rio Grande Zephyr

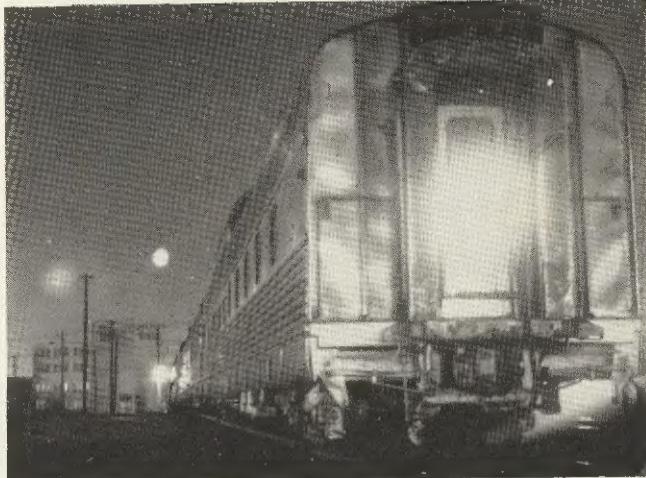


Rio Grande's passenger train, Rio Grande Zephyr, is shown in photographs on arrival at Salt Lake City, Utah. Photographs are by G. R. Gardner, Salt Lake City.

On November 10, Rio Grande posted notices of the proposed discontinuance of service of passenger Trains Nos. 17 and 18 (Rio Grande Zephyr) to and from Thompson, Green River, Helper, Provo, Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah. The terminal between which the trains operate are Denver, Colorado, on the one hand, and Salt Lake City, Utah and Ogden, Utah, on the other. The trains would continue to operate between Denver, Colorado and Grand Junction, Colorado.

The date on which the discontinuance or change of operation or service is proposed to become effective is January 31, 1979.\* The notice stated that persons desiring to object to the proposed discontinuance or change should notify the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington, D. C. of such objections and the reasons therefor at least fifteen (15) days before the effective date of the proposed discontinuance or change.

Rio Grande recognizes its obligation to the public to furnish transportation where needed and does its best to fulfill this obligation. However, passenger traffic between terminals



Grand Junction and Salt Lake City does not warrant the continuance of this service. It is estimated that the railroad will sustain a \$2.3 million loss overall on passenger service for the year 1978. If permitted to discontinue the service as proposed, savings of \$800,000 would be realized. Less than one out of four people on the train out of Denver ride past Grand Junction, and the passenger traffic out of Salt Lake City is often nil. Less than one percent of railroad income is derived from Zephyr passenger business. Even at full capacity, passenger business would not compensate for the great losses, and at today's rising costs, the purchase of additional equipment would only increase the monumental loss.

Surveys of existing air flights and bus service indicate that such services are more than adequate to meet the needs of the traveling public and offer more frequent services between Grand Junction and Salt Lake City than does the Zephyr.

The Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce has stated that they will not oppose the discontinuance as proposed. To date, no hearings on the matter have been scheduled.

\*At press time, it was learned the Zephyr will continue to run until May 30, 1979.



### Rio Grande Insurance Man Elected Chairman

At the Sixteenth Annual meeting of Railroad Insurance Management Association, Rio Grande's Manager of Insurance C. W. Colborg was elected chairman for the ensuing year. The meeting was held on November 13, 14 and 15 at Carefree, Arizona. Twenty-eight Class 1 railroads were represented. The meeting consisted of round table discussion on various insurance subjects including a session on benefit programs. The highlight was an address by Mr. John Fenn of Lloyds of London.

Other officers elected at the meeting are: Vice Chairman Lance Harrison, Insurance Supervisor, Chicago & Northwestern Transportation Company, Chicago, IL; Secretary-Treasurer Roy E. Foutz, Manager Insurance, Norfolk & Western Railway Company, Roanoke, VA.

### Storybook Romance

Mildred Young, retired clerk, Revenue Accounting, recently announced her marriage on November 3 to Charles H. O'Brien. Mildred and Charles have known each other all their lives, were childhood sweethearts, and were engaged at the age of 18. A "silly spat" broke up the engagement, the two drifted apart, and just recently got back together again. The reunion culminated in marriage, a real storybook romance with a "they lived happily ever after" ending. Mildred and Charles are living "happily" in Parker, Colorado. Mildred was employed as comptometer operator in 1924 and retired in 1967. Her many friends on the Rio Grande send their best wishes to Mildred and Charles for their lifelong happiness and good fortune.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

It is the policy of The Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Company to employ, promote and otherwise treat prospective and present employees without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age or national origin. This policy applies to all departments, all work locations and to all officers and employees.

## Retirements Continue to Take Toll

Four more illustrious careers on Rio Grande were nipped in the bud when retirement reared its enticing head to Rio Grande's Action men George Bauer, steel car shop foreman, "Noonie" Spohn, train yard foreman, Jack Thode, chief budget officer, and Chet Turner, superintendent of work equipment.

**George Bauer, Jr.** began employment as carman helper on September 9, 1939 and transferred to carman on September 8, 1943. He became coach yard foreman, pattern and wood shop foreman and freight car shop foreman successively. George plans to do a lot of fishing and hunting, once the put-off household chores have been taken care of. George and Mrs. Bauer are shown in photograph at the shop party held in his honor. Friends from all over the railroad and many retired, came to wish them well. George had forty-two years of service with Rio Grande and is a man "hard to replace".

**Louis C. Spohn, Jr.**, known as "Noonie" to his many friends, started with Rio Grande on October 29, 1936 as carman apprentice. He completed apprenticeship and transferred to carman on June 10, 1941. He worked for the Defense Department at the Naval Base at Pearl Harbor in 1942 and was then inducted into the Army in 1944. He returned to Burnham as carman July 5, 1946 following his discharge from the Army. He was wood car shop foreman and train yard foreman at Burnham and was appointed assistant car foreman in 1966. Title was later changed to train yard foreman, North yard. Noonie is pictured with his wife at party held for him, with two cakes and numerous gifts, at the North Yard Rip Track.

**Jackson C. Thode** began employment as clerk in the accounting department on August 12, 1936. Jack also served in the U. S. Army from 1942 to 1946. He worked as secretary to terminal trainmaster, transportation superintendent and executive vice president. He was appointed secretary to the president in 1956 and appointed chief budget officer in 1973. He has also been custodian of historical records and worked for many years on the Manual of Procedures. It has been said that no one knows Rio Grande history better than Jackson, and he will be greatly missed by rail historians as well as fellow employees and friends.

Jack is pictured as he takes a phone call from a well-wisher on the morning of his retirement day party. Specially decorated cakes and personal gifts were presented to Jack, as he, his wife and daughter greeted many friends at one of the largest retirement parties held in the General Office building.

**Chester R. Turner**, popularly known as "Chet", was employed as supervisor of work equipment on June 1, 1957. "Chet" made many friends over the Rio Grande system during his years, all of whom are dear to him as he is dear to them. Chet's very full and active life tending to the work equipment and its operation on the railroad also included time for golfing, bowling and baseball. His undaunted courage, optimism and geniality, even in the face of a recent leg amputation, has been an inspiration to everyone who knows him. Many friends appeared at his retirement party to wish him well and to set up future golfing and bowling dates with him. Rio Granders wish this Grande Action man and his wife Beth, pictured here, the best of all good things in life.

Received a card at press time from Beth and Chet Turner, wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Chet wrote, "Will you please thank each and every Rio Grande employee for the generous retirement gift presented to me?" So, to each of you, thanks from Chet and Happy Holidays!



## Rio Grande Fall Invitational Golf Tournament Held in Provo, Utah

Some of the Rio Grande golfers who participated in the tournament are pictured here. The tournament was arranged by District Traffic Manager Jim Hollandsworth, who was recently elected president-elect of the Riverside Country Club, where the tournament was held on October 21.

Nine flights participated in the tournament, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone, along with the awards banquet.

Some of the awards were: Low Gross, Bill Bowden, conductor; Low Net, Gene Frantz, retired diesel shop foreman; Closest to Hole, J. R. Clark, district traffic representative; Longest Drive, A. L. Marzano, asst. superintendent, Grand Junction.



Left to right: A. L. Marzano, asst. superintendent, Grand Junction; Jim Hollandsworth, district traffic manager, Provo; L. R. Parsons, superintendent, Utah Division, Salt Lake City; Bill Taylor, traffic representative, Salt Lake City.



Left to right: Glen Allen, Rio Grande Motor Way; Gene Frantz, retired diesel supervisor; Bud Holt, retired Rio Grande Motor Way; E. B. Mitchell, retired freight claim agent.



Left to right: J. P. Gilmore, district representative D&RGW; J. R. Clark, district representative, D&RGW; Dick Heim, district representative, SP; Roger Friis, district representative, SLSF.



Left to right: Craig Anderson, Piggyback Ramp, Salt Lake City; Guy Jones, PB Ramp, SLC; Pinky Smith, TOFC, Denver; R. J. Harrington, Harrington Trucking Co., Salt Lake City.



Left to right: Chuck Nance, engineer, Roper; David H. Gibson, retired engineer, Helper; Bill Bowden, conductor, Roper; Ken W. Godfrey, trainman, Roper.

# Rail CHATTER on the Grande

## System Freight Agency

By Charles Cutforth



October 31st saw Johnny Dolphin retire from Rio Grande service after some 36 years. John and his wife "Tish" came to Colorado from Ryan, Iowa where John grew up, and John soon went to work in our Accounting Department. Except for a period during World War 2 when John was in the U. S. Navy, he continued in the department until January 1964 when he joined with a group of others to form the new System Freight Agency. He continued in SFA as senior rate clerk until his retirement. John and Tish have four lovely daughters and four grandchildren to enjoy during retirement. John was active in BofRC and an officer in the Rio Grande Operating Credit Union. He also was an outstanding ball player for many years and is an avid sports fan. Everyone will miss him in SFA, and a multitude of others will miss his thoughtful help in the area of freight rates. We trust the years ahead will bring great joy to John and Tish, shown in photo with retirement cakes, and hope they will have a great measure of health in which to enjoy them.

Charles and Darlene Cutforth spent three fall weeks in Canada, New England and the midwest viewing the colors and visiting historical places. The colors were wonderful and Boston and Plymouth were especially rewarding to one who appreciates the history of the good old U.S.A.

Ed Salazar recently spent some vacation time recovering from eye surgery. We are glad to report everything is OK and Ed can continue girl watching as in the past!

We wish to welcome Alvina Little to the SFA staff. She comes to us from North Yard, having worked in the office there.

Thought: "Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces up, snow is exhilarating; there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather." — Ruskin.

## From the Seventh

By Janet Meimar

Peoplehave been busy with their vacations recently. Carol Moore and her family just returned from Acapulco. It was the first time her daughter had been to the ocean, so they spent a lot of time on the beach, and Carol enjoyed the Inca dance performances.

Jeanette Boyer traveled to Seattle and to Vancouver and Victoria, Canada. She attended the annual convention of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. She was accompanied by her daughter Lea, who won a trophy for her ballet performance before the National Association of Girls' Clubs convention. Jeanette particularly enjoyed the ferry ride to Vancouver, the Buchart Gardens, and touring the House of Parliament in Victoria.

Eleanor von Hohenstraeten was visited by relatives from Germany and took them on a grand tour of the West. They traveled to Yellowstone, Zion, and Mesa Verde National Parks, boated on Lake Powell, and took a plane trip over the Grand Canyon.

Luanne Mattingly and Irene Robinette rode the train to Glenwood Springs with their children. They enjoyed it very much and hope to repeat the trip soon. Irene also traveled to Durango and rode the Silverton train.

We congratulate Lane Johnson on his recent marriage, and also we would like to congratulate Shirley and Maurice Aranda.

We give our condolences to Wally Hulstrom, whose father, a retired Rio Grande employee, passed away recently.

Last but not least, we hope that everyone has a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## Revenue Accounting

By Mary Newsome

A big welcome to Carol Steele who joined our department in November, and to Gary McAvoy, welcome back.

Wedding bells rang for Shirley Potthoff and Maurice Aranda, who were married on October 28. The wedding and reception-dinner were held at Maurice's brother's home. Pictured is Maurice and Shirley at a surprise party given for them by all their friends here at the office. They were presented with a beautiful cake, lovely flowers and a nice gift of money. Congratulations and the best of everything to Shirley and Maurice from all their friends.



Bernie and Nancy Hoffman spent a fun week in sunny California in November. They went to Disneyland and then met friends in San Francisco and went on a tour of the Hurst Castle with its beautiful marble. Then they went to Lion Country Safari where Bernie said a lion and a Bengal tiger came right up to their car. They also visited Marineland.

Mary Newsome spent an exciting week in Reno visiting relatives who moved there recently from Denver. Because of bad weather, the trip by jet took 10 hours instead of the normal 2 hours, with an overnight stay in San Francisco. Due to the delay, all drinks were free on the plane so it was more like a party than a regular flight.

Congratulations (???) to Bernie and Nancy Hoffman on their new addition to the family. "It" needs burping, needs changing and needs to be kept warm at all times. If Bernie hasn't told you about it yet, just give him time and he'll tell you all about his new WATERBED!

It was a joy to see so many retired friends who came to wish John Dolphin a happy retirement. Good friends such as Curt Harris, Freddie Putz, Byron Brown, Ralph Brown, Don Thomas and Dave Greear.

## The Big Spenders

By Isaac Mootye

Precisely at twelve, a foursome heads toward the corner where a friendly coin-flippin' ceremony initiates noon-day capers of the Expenditure Accounting staff.

Ten to fifteen minutes into the lunch period, Marie Shepherdson hosts a game of scrabble in which three players match wits with Bob "Huggy Bear" Scott who is dead serious about being triumphant. His strategic seven-letter word "toilets" recently bolstered his ego, but when will he clean up his act? Al "Macho" Amen busies himself reading the latest issue of Midnight newspaper which is ingeniously encased in an old Wall Street Journal. Tom Ashe is enthralled in Dr. Wayne Dyer's hottest bestseller, "Pulling Your Own Strings", including dynamic techniques for confidently enjoying your own life, your own way, without being manipulated. We also have a unique bunch of pinochle players who can't seem to figure out who the real "kitty" is. The crossword puzzle that seems to be preoccupying Irv Heartz is actually a pool to see who can guess Art Ruscio's weekly bowling score.

On the more serious side, we wish to extend well-wishes to C. H. MacDonald and Hank Bergman who are yet on medical leaves. A warm farewell and blessing is in order to Elaine "Minnie Ha-Ha" Mai who left early in December to pioneer on the Pacific Ocean resort of Lincoln City, Oregon.

Did you know the Les Egans are expecting a new addition to their family? Finally, I would like to extend good luck to Carl Jensen who is off on his vacation, upon which I will elaborate more in the next issue.

## From the Tenth

By Tom Wells

Welcome aboard to R.S. Boraas, rodman, Engineering Department, Denver. Roger came to the Rio Grande from Conrail where he worked for two years as assistant supervisor-tracks. Rogers' home is East Orange, New Jersey, and he is a graduate of Princeton University.

Our sincere condolences to Leo and Sharon Phelan on the loss of Sharon's father, Thomas J. Digenan. The late Mr. Digenan passed away November 28; committal services were Friday, December 1, at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Glad to report that Roy D. Combs is home and doing well after suffering a heart attack on October 14. Roy is looking forward to coming back to work soon.

Have you seen the new Silver Streak around Denver? It's F. A. Dunham's new Cadillac. It even has wire-spoked wheels.

Happy birthday wishes are extended to the R. C. Oatman family. Bob and Shirley celebrated theirs in November, and the children will celebrate theirs in December.

Robert Oatman, son of R. C. Oatman, has completed two years of Advanced Electronics. His training falls in line with the computer operation of the Guidance of Nuclear Missiles. At present Robert is stationed on board the U. S. S. Halsey, San Diego, California.

On a recent trip, Gloria and Mike Kenyon went to Boston, Massachusetts to attend an Alumni Officers' Conference at M.I.T. While back East, they traveled to Rhode Island to visit relatives.

Our belated congratulations to Mike and Sue Garcia on the birth of daughter Danyell. Danyell arrived July 29, weighing in at an even seven pounds.

Your reporter recently won the Annual Award for the most Trophy Dash wins of the Early Body Modified Races held every Sunday at Lakeside Park throughout the spring and summer months. With 14 years of racing behind him, this is the first time Tom has won the Award. His car, "Sweet Sally", is shown here at the track, photo by TCOM track photographer. The body and chassis are a 1931 Model A, and the engine is 15 years old. The "spoiler" on the rear adds to cornering stability. Tom wishes to give special thanks to Draftsmen Bob Thurston and Tom Fuentes for the lettering on the side of the car.



Green Light



Tom Wells and Trophy Dash award.

## Colorado Division

By Anne Darling

Welcome to Jim O'Reilly as trainmaster. Also happy to announce that Patricia and Jim are proud parents of James Patrick III weighing in at 7 lbs. 1 oz. arriving on Friday, October 13.

Walt and Pauline Duffy are proud grandparents of Nicholas Mark, born to Sharon and Mark Duffy in New Jersey.

Welcome to Carlos Montoya as track supervisor.

John Vess spent Thanksgiving week with relatives in New York.

Howard Dearing, Hugh Thornsberry and Gerry McCall stopped by for a short visit. All look like retirement is agreeing with them.

Your reporter is enjoying a holiday vacation at this writing.

Happy Holidays to All!

## North Yard

By Joe Lonergan

Kevin Utterback and wife are proud parents of a baby boy. Anthony Michael Utterback was born the first week of December. Kevin is a hostler at North Yard.

Congratulations to Fred and Susan Montoya on their marriage October 28. Fred "Chico" Montoya is employed as laborer at North Yard fuel track.

Sam and Cecelia Rotolo recently returned from Hawaii. They visited four islands while in Hawaii. Sam recently retired from the Car Department.

Our sympathy to Mrs. Dorothy Scott and her two children on the death of A. C. "Scotty" Scott, husband and father. Mr. Scott died in a hunting related accident. Scotty worked as clerk and mobile crane operator.

A retirement party was held at North Yard for Noonie Spohn on November 29. Noonie retired as day train yard foreman. Ernie Garcia will take Noonie's job.

L. T. Blair was appointed foreman replacing Warren Weinland as relief foreman.

## Colorado Springs

By J. J. Kennedy

Andy Donlon, retired cashier, was in the hospital to undergo surgery. Everyone wishes him a speedy recovery.

Mike Barone, section foreman, enjoyed two weeks of vacation. He went deer hunting and had good luck.

Dave Fuller, clerk, and family enjoyed one week of vacation visiting family and friends in Kansas during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Steve Fried, asst. foreman, enjoyed one week's vacation visiting family and friends in New York City.

Don Curtis, interchange and demurrage clerk, and his wife enjoyed two weeks' vacation, spending some time in their mountain cabin and getting ready for Christmas.

Congratulations to Winston Johnson, welder, and his wife on the arrival of their son November 13, 1978.

## Pueblo

By Guida Fonda

This has been a busy month for Pueblo. Ernie Quintana has been working especially hard to get enough money for his wife's trip to California next spring for a family reunion. It appears Ernie will be staying home minding the store and the children while wife Lee has a most deserving vacation.

Our sincere sympathy to Ray Fisher on the loss of his sister-in-law who passed away in Denver; to George and Emma Garber on the loss of Emma's father in Trinidad; and to Velma Johnston on the loss of her husband, Ed Johnston, retired general car foreman. Velma would like to extend her personal thanks to all of Ed's many friends and hers for their kindness and thoughts during this time. Sympathy is extended also to Joe Heiney on the loss of his father, also of Denver.

Clark and Joanne Hertneky were married this month. They had a lovely wedding and moved into a new home. Congratulations to you both and many years of happiness, from all of us.

Daniel "Red" Oakley passed away November 30. He was a retired carman.

On the happier side congratulations to Bobby and Chris Reed on the birth of their baby boy, Ross Allen. Mother and baby are doing fine; this makes two boys for the Reed family.

Bruce Hearn received his new Corvette and should have no trouble getting dates — that is if he has enough money left over after his vacation in Hawaii visiting his brother.

Elk season was plush down here, at least for Supervisors Dutch Beal, Gordon Openshaw, Bill Boggs, Art Henke and his sons, Ralph and Don, and friend Rich Williams. They spent a week in Bonanza and came home with five elk — not bad. Art was the entertainer of the year at the Bonanza Social Club with his harmonica. If you've never heard him play, I understand he is taking engagements to perform for different events.

Bill Boggs also got an antelope in Westcliff. He's having that trophy mounted to show his grandchildren. Bill Keyser and Dick Schaffer went hunting; didn't have any luck but a lot of fun.

Art Lewis had a very memorable trip to Europe; they departed Los Angeles August 12; toured Holland, Belgium, France, England, Scotland and Ireland, returning August 27. There were 250 people on this tour. They saw many beautiful sites and took a lot of pictures. He suggests everyone should make this trip at least once in their lifetime.

Lou Zember will be walking down the aisle with his daughter sometime in March — one down and one to go, he says. Dutch Beal had his gallbladder removed November 5. He's slowly on the mend and should be returning to work sometime around the first of the year. We hope this will be his last trip to the hospital for awhile.

Everyone in Pueblo has been getting their exercise lately going across our new bridge. It sure is high and has a million stairs. Everyone thinks it's great except Bill Kennedy and yours truly; we'd rather wait for the crossing to be opened than to walk across the bridge.

Merry Christmas to all and a very happy New Year



Brian B. Gonzales, Pueblo Rip Track laborer, breaking the State record in the "Squat with 455 lbs." during the Southern Colorado Open Powerlifting Championship on October 7, 1978. Brian is 22 and has been employed at Pueblo since August 1975.

## Sports

By G. L. Cristofano

The Broncos have won their division and are headed for the playoffs and, Lord willing, the Super Bowl again!

The following bowling teams are leading their leagues as of December 5: Salt Lake — "High Rollers", Captain Jim Mogenson; Helper — "HTH Racing Team", Captain Elmer Hamilton; Pueblo — "Drawbars", Captain Tony Schaaf; Grand Junction — "Bridge Gang", Captain Roberta Brooks; Durango — "Pin Dope Five", Captain Bill Griffin; Denver — "Traffic", Captain Jack Cook.

The bowling tournament will be held in Helper, Utah next year.

Goose hunting should pick up as storms up north move the flocks south. With shells, license, gas, food and rent for a blind, this could add up to gourmet eating (maybe).

Any deer or elk hunters who have good photos of their success, send them in. We will try and print them for "Show and Tell" in the *Green Light*.

## "A Good Feeling"

By Mots, Roper

"He has the speed, grace and power of a Cheetah", "a natural athlete", "undoubtedly a future champion"; these are all very graphic statements meant to describe the finished and polished product standing with his gloved hands raised in victory.

How has this heretofore rough, uncut piece of granite come to have its sharp edges smoothed and its suppleness enhanced? How many sacrifices and how many hours of diligent, uncompromised training are hidden from the layman's eyes? These questions are answered and insight gained, hopefully, from the following interview with Darrell Thomas, laborer at Roper and former ProAmateur middleweight boxer.

Q. At what age would you introduce a young man to boxing as a profession?

A. About 12 years on up.

Q. What characteristics should he have?

A. He has grown up in a rough neighborhood; he is vigorous, husky and a leader respected by other kids. A fighter is a loner. He is not a team man. He must have confidence in himself. He stands or falls alone.

Q. What other characteristics would you look for?

A. I would like to see a mean streak in him. In order to hit a man hard enough to hurt him, you have to hate something. That is why most successful fighters come from ghettos, underprivileged or broken homes; any background that will create something to hate. A kid with a mean streak will take care of himself. He knows when to get mad, when to get up and when to get out.

Q. In other words, he knows his limitations?

A. Yes, he has more animal cautiousness than the kid without this streak.

Q. What about the fighter that doesn't have this hate instinct?

A. He will probably end up getting hurt to the point where he'll give up a career in boxing.

Q. How many years and how much training has a boxer invested before his first professional fight?

A. About thirty or forty fights; oh, I guess two to three years. As an amateur, this kid has spent maybe six hours a day, five days a week in the gymnasium.

Q. What kind of training?

A. He runs probably five to ten miles a day to develop a good solid leg to stand on. Then he'll jump rope ten to fifteen minutes to loosen up his body and develop quick movement in his legs. Then he'll probably go to the speed bag. He'll work on this ten to fifteen minutes at a time, off and on all day long. This keeps a sweat up and removes excess fat. (Ed's note: the speed bag is the small, pear-shaped bag found hanging in most gymnasiums, used for developing counter punching.) Then he'll lift weights to keep his arms solid. A heavyweight will lift a lot of weights to build muscle. In the lighter weights they don't lift a lot of weights; they try to make the muscles they have as solid, hard and as tight as they can get 'em. The medicine ball (Ed's note: the large leather-covered soft ball found in gymnasiums) is used to develop and strengthen the stomach muscles and develop muscle tightening reflexes. Now it's time to spar (practice for a match). If he's readying for a tough three-round match, he'll go six all out rounds each day before the match.

Q. It seems like a boxer lives in the gymnasium. Why is this?

A. A boxer has to stay in condition all the time. He might be told he has only two weeks to thirty days to prepare for a match (amateur).

Q. What is the most important aspect of training?

A. Self discipline. You're responsible for your diet, rest, physical and mental training.

Q. What sacrifices does a dedicated boxer have to make — socially, family and financial?

A. No late parties, no drinking, no late movies — the sitting in that position cramps the legs. No dancing; it's over training, especially with today's dances. Friends have to be given up. A married man's family is going to suffer. Let's say he's paid \$600 for a fight. He'll only bring home \$200 of that. If he gets cut up, that's another \$100 for the doctor. His family has to get used to looking at a bloused eye or a broken nose. But an amateur fighter makes a bigger financial sacrifice than a professional.

Q. Why?

A. An amateur has to pay gymnasium fees, locker fees, membership fees. If he's 16 or 17, this money could be spent on dates and cars. A professional will earn enough money boxing to cover these expenses. But you're still not going to take much home unless you're big time.

Q. When do these sacrifices begin?

A. About 16 years old. He has to find a job to support his training. That's all he'll have time for, working and training — no dates, no cars, few friends.

Q. I've seen some professional fighters take an awful beating for little money. There must be some reward?

A. Oh boy, that's a tough one — winning, selfglorification, to prove to somebody else, your mother, wife, fans, that you can do it. It's your job, that's it! That's the whole thing; you did your job, no matter how hard it is, you did it, and I don't care what anybody says, that's a good feeling!

Mots' comment: The cheetah has come a long way, and the sculpture is complete. It's obviously a very spartan life. We thank you for the insight.

## From the Ninth

By Carolyn Herrera

Welcome to our three new friends in Communications. Whitman Brown comes to us from Steamboat Springs, with his new wife and four children, as assistant communications engineer. Victor Beaver, with four years service in Salt Lake City is now in Denver with wife and family, serving the D&RGW RR as a radio communications equipment maintainer. Greg Perna, a Denver bachelor, with three years temporary service as lineman, is now radio communications equipment maintainer.

The unbelievable has finally taken place in the Purchasing Department. After 35 years of service, Walt Holmquist heroically arrived to work LATE! It's okay, Walt, "you young guys are tough".

Those broad smiles seen in Personnel were coming from proud Grandfather John Lovett on the birth of his granddaughter, Abigail Maureen, to parents John C. and Clare Lovett. Congratulations to both parents and grandfather.

## Provo

By Red Rider\*

Gary Averett, carman at Provo, passed away at the age of 52. Condolences to his family.

Condolences to the Lombardi family. Mrs. Lombardi passed away at the age of 84. She was a long time resident of Thistle, Utah. Darwin and Rex Lombardi are employees of the D&RGW.

Car Foreman Frank Mikesell and his wife spent their vacation in California. Trainmaster Ed Anderson and family vacationed along the Northwest Coast.

Condolences to the Ronald Gardner family. His sister passed away. Condolences to the R. R. Rackele family whose niece passed away of cancer at the age of 41.

Glade Collard and his wife traveled to Denver to watch the Denver Broncos and Chicago Bears play.

There was a wedding at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Watson. Their daughter Kristen was married to Ramon Castillo.

The Rackeles went on a 11-day cruise down Mexico way visiting Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, Acapulco, Zihuatango and Puerto Vallarta. Wife Donna and I won several prizes in the entertainment field. Daughter Rudene was given the honors of being the most beautiful lady on the cruise.

Be alert. Keep safety in mind so that you may play Santa to your family for years to come.

Merry Christmas and a good New Year.

\*R. R. Rackele

## Salt Lake Veterans Ladies Auxiliary

By Evette Walters

At the November meeting, election of officers was held as follows:

President Clelia Mackelprang, Vice President Verna Mair, Secretary Martha Toombs; Board members, Lorene Krauth, Dorothy Rugg, Jean Thomas, Ora Welsh, Jenny Ferriman. Serving their second year on the board are Eva Yates and Marjorie Clements.

Emily Rugg is recovering after a cornea transplant on October 9. We are happy she was at our Thanksgiving Party. She is a special cheerful friend we all love.

Vern Hatfield, retired engineer, died November 9. He was 80 years old and had been ill the last few months. We offer our sympathy to his wife Kay, who took good care of him.

We admonish Hannah May Platt — if you are determined to do your own wash at 92, please! be careful of the wringer. We did miss you so while your hand recovered from its trip through the wringer. Happy you are back where you belong.

Our good friend Ella Beck, 92, died in a pedestrian-auto accident. We will miss her at our auxiliary parties and in town where she loved to window shop and meet friends.

We lost another dear friend when Nellie Jack, 83, died this summer. She was active in our auxiliary until about two years ago. She was a 22-year veteran of the Utah House of Representatives and for thirty years a delegate to the National Democratic Convention. She was always active in community affairs and won many awards for her achievements — a loving, caring person we will miss.

We also miss our friend and neighbor, Alex Steel, who was an engineer for D&RGW for many years. He died this summer at age 91. He lived alone and with

some help from his daughters kept up his home and yard. He died in a hospital two weeks after last illness. He was a friendly, kind neighbor of mine.

Minnie and Gino Giovacchini saw their oldest grandson married to Robyn Ann Klonizos, a lovely girl. Their friends enjoyed the wedding bash, which was something special, dancing, cocktails and buffet that didn't stop. The newlyweds left for Pullman, Washington, where the bridegroom will attend Washington State University and will be an athletic coach.

## Denver Veterans & Ladies Auxiliary

By Mildred Harmon

Mr. Al McGruder, president of Denver Veterans Club No. 3, is home after surgery. He is recuperating nicely but must take treatments for some time. His wife Elizabeth is president of the Ladies Auxiliary. We have missed them at our club meetings and wish them good health, good luck and good times ahead.

Ruth and Louis Heimlich visited their granddaughter and her family in Holdrege, Nebraska for Thanksgiving and will be going back for the Christmas holidays.

Pete and Velma Ackerman celebrated their 54th Anniversary November 15 with a dinner given by their children.

Anna Duckworth went to her son's home in Evergreen for Thanksgiving.

Evna Owen had as house guest her cousin, Bonnie Leal Funderburg of San Francisco.

Bill and Gertrude Freeland spent Thanksgiving in Glenwood Springs.

Lucy Guy went to Hawaii for a week in September, then visited her son Al and his family in California and spent Thanksgiving with her sister and brother-in-law. She will spend Christmas with Al and his family.

Anna C. Rhode will visit her niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Wally Draper, and others in Torrance, California during December and January.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Crosswhite went to the Ozarks in October and visited their brother and family in Kansas. They had a wonderful time.

Vera and John Pounden are going to San Francisco for Christmas and New Years with their son and family.

Max and Sylvia Garcia drove to El Paso, Texas for Thanksgiving with their daughter and son-in-law. They plan to spend Christmas with their son and his family in Morton, Illinois.

Iva and Lee Andrews took a ten-day trip with the Jeffco Fall Color tour in Wisconsin and Michigan. They flew to Milwaukee where they took in the Dells and to Ste Saint Marie, went through the Soo Locks, rode on the Canadian train, visited the Henry Ford Museum, Greenwich Village Place where Henry Ford bought and restored old houses, and flew home from Detroit.

They also had a four-day trip to Reno; took in four shows, Lake Tahoe and then home.

Don't forget the Annual Retirement Dinner at the Marriott Hotel, 6363 West Hampden Avenue, on January 29, 1979.

## High Country Comments

By Maribee

Elmer Cole, brother of retired Salida engineer Herb Cole, attended his first Last Squad banquet since it was organized in 1935.

The Last Squad is comprised of a group of American Legion members who served in World War I. This particular Last Squad is an organization of American Legion members from Leadville and the Battle Mountain Post at Red Cliff. When enrollment ended, membership could not be increased. When only eight members show up for the annual banquet, the bottle of Irish Whiskey which has been enshrined since 1935 will be opened; each member will drink a toast to the departed members, and the Last Squad will disband.

Elmer brought his brother as guest to this year's banquet, and both had an enjoyable time renewing old friendships. The Banquet for the two American Legion post members has been held in Leadville for many years.

The Cole brothers' family history is enriched with railroad ties. Their father went to work for the Rio Grande railroad in 1887 as a telegrapher operator and later worked at stations where he was agent-telegrapher. Brown's Canon was his first assignment and later he worked at the Malta Station. Herb Cole was born at Malta in 1902. His brother, Elmer, who is eight years his senior, was one of the first students in the old Malta school house. He even remembers his teacher's name — Minnie Barton.

In 1905 the father of the Cole brothers who had a sister now deceased bid on Tennessee Pass. From there he went to Avon. After living at Avon until 1909, the Cole family moved to Sargent where their father served as agent for 35 years. He later retired from the Paonia station.

Elmer Cole dropped out of railroading after working in the Salida shops for two years; on the bridge gang until 1911, then to Minturn to put in the turn table and construct the round house, which was finished in 1912. He then left for Idaho; returned to Red Cliff from where he was drafted for World War I and was sent to Siberia.

"I returned from service on New Year's Day 1920 after serving in the 31st Infantry. After that I decided to go into the general contracting business until I retired in 1952." Since 1943 he has been living with his wife in San Jose, Calif.

He makes visits to his brother in Salida every two to three years, and Herb and his wife visit California now and then.

Herb Cole spent 42 years in engine service prior to his retirement in 1968.

The two brothers had a lot of catch-up reminiscing to do at the last Squad banquet.

It was good that such an enjoyable time was had for within the next two months three of the people who had been at that banquet crossed the Great Divide.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Engine crews who worked from Salida to Minturn probably knew John Caddy who worked for the New Jersey Zinc Co. for many years. He passed away shortly after the banquet. During the invocation he had said, "How wonderful it is that we have the opportunity to gather together. A tribute to all mankind is that we love one another as we stand here today and as we think of the days gone by and of the comrades who have left us."

"Comrades, let us not be dismayed in our efforts. Let us look forward to a greater life. We have our lives ahead of us to live. Let us live it our way so that when our day comes we may be able to say 'Amen'."

\*Mary B. Cassidy



## Utah Division

By Roper Jo

Margaret Davis, wife of Supervisor of Structures Robert E. Davis recently had surgery in a Salt Lake hospital. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Jerry Pearson, office engineer, spent his vacation deer hunting, and the only thing he caught was a cold. Better luck next year, Jerry.

Jack B. Treat, Roadmaster, took his wife Merl for a vacation in Las Vegas, where they took in some shows, and they took a little of his money on the tables.

Division Engineer's Office welcomes David B. Pearson as engineering assistant at Salt Lake.

Sympathy is extended to D. L. Stoddard, Chief Clerk at Roper Yard office on the death of his father. All of Roper send their sympathy.

Ben Harvey, retired employee from the Mechanical Department, passed away, and all clerks at Roper extend their sympathy to Clifford.

The many friends of Lee Mason, crew caller at Roper, extend their sympathy to Lee's wife and family. Lee passed away in a local hospital and will be missed by many. Lee's son Mike is brakeman at Roper.

Ruth Tripp in the Superintendent's Office and Yard Office, and her family, took a week's vacation to Denver to watch the football game. Now that is what I call dedication to a sport.

D. D. Callister was given a luncheon at 30th South in honor of his retirement as switch foreman. Don hired out at Roper on March 20, 1941 as a switchman, promoted to assistant yardmaster March 21, 1945, relinquished rights as assistant yardmaster August 27, 1946 to work as engine foreman or switchman until he applied for annuity December 1, 1978. Mr. Callister is shown in photo below.



## Salt Lake City Veterans

By N. E. Boswell

The Salt Lake Veterans annual Thanksgiving Party on November 17 was a great success. There were approximately 60 in attendance to enjoy the excellent food and a fun time. After dinner, the Ladies played bingo while the men joined together to elect new Board members Clarence H. Underwood, Irvin Langton, Gino Giovacchini, and Wayne Welsh.

C. H. Underwood was successful this year in getting a deer, but he missed out getting an elk — better luck next year, Clarence.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Walters returned from a Northwest tour. Mrs. Walters had a little hard luck on the trip when she fell and broke her hand.

Condolences and sympathy to Mrs. Joseph William Wernz on the loss of her husband October 18. Joe retired in 1970 after 47 years as conductor.

Condolences and sympathy also to Mrs. Gaylen H. Fullmer on the loss of her husband November 11. Gaylen was a retired conductor after 38 years.

Congratulations to Dr. Larry Jensen who recently obtained his Doctorate as a high school principal in Afton, Wyoming. Dr. Jensen is the son of Elva and Leonard Jensen, retired machinist.

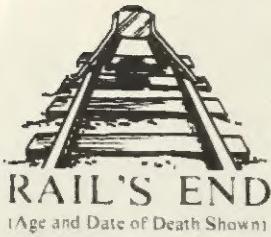
Congratulations to Mrs. Mary A. Demick Andersen who reached her 90th birthday on November 24. She is the mother of Bill Demick, retired engineer.

Our last event of the year was the Christmas party held December 13, 1978.

Today's Chuckle: Careful grooming may take 20 years off your age. But it won't fool a long flight of stairs.

Be careful about calling yourself an expert. An "ex" is a has been, and a spurt is a drip under pressure.

"It's the little things that mean so much, A friendly word, a gentle touch, A glance, a smile, an outstretched hand To say I care and understand. A sincere note, a thoughtful call; The little things mean most of all."



RAIL'S END  
(Age and Date of Death Shown)

Averett, G. W., Payson, Ut., Carman, 51, Oct. 5  
Bearden, L. V., Jalisco, Mexico, Yardmaster, 59, Nov. 16  
Bruno, Guy, Canon City, Boilermaker Helper, 74, Oct. '78\*  
Burke, Granville T., Grand Junction, Carman, 65, Sept. 16  
Bustos, Jose R., Alamosa, Transfer Trucker, 68, Nov. 10  
Carlson, August O., Denver, Loco. Engineer, 88, Oct. 8  
Chanay, Thomas G., Denver, Carman, 80, Sept. '78\*  
Chance, Clarence R., Stockton, CA, Waiter, 76, Oct. '78\*  
Clancy, Guy W., Denver, Accountant, 81, Aug. '78\*  
Dunn, Edgar H., Alamosa, Loco. Engineer, 68, Sept. 9  
Ellsworth, Lee J., Denver, Machinist, 72, Sept. 15  
Fullmer, Gaylen H., Salt Lake City, Conductor, 60, Nov. 10  
Hansen, Lawrence, Golden, Loco. Engineer, 92, Oct. '78\*  
Hatfield, Vern, Salt Lake City, Loco. Engineer, 80, Nov. 19  
Harvey, Benjamin I., Salt Lake City, Clerk, 86, Oct. 11  
Hulstrom, Carl A., Denver, Fuel Accountant, 77, Nov. 27  
Johnston, Edward P., Pueblo, Genl. Car Foreman, 74,  
Oct. 20  
Lawyer, Atwood, Denver, Car Inspector, 88, July '78\*  
McAlroy, Herbert E., Denver, Loco. Engineer, 93, Sept. '78\*  
Mackley, Ellison A., Palisade, Electrician, 76, Sept. '78\*  
Mason, Irving L., Salt Lake City, Clerk, 48, Oct. 11  
Powell, Delmar H., Price, Section Laborer, 71, Oct. 18  
Rasmussen, Darol, Bountiful, Agent-Operator, 83, Nov. 9  
Reece, Ralph, Denver, Switchman, 79, Oct. '78\*  
Rogers, Harry F., Grand Junction, Conductor, 78, Sept. '78\*  
Rose, Alex E., Denver, Manager of Insurance, 71, Dec. 7  
Ross, John F., Sr., Denver, Store Helper, 62, Nov. 26  
Salmeron, Fedelino, Denver, Laborer, Unknown, Sept. 12  
Scott, Allen C., Denver, Clerk-Crane Opr., 41, Oct. 21  
Shacklett, Clark H., Denver, Conductor, 70, Oct. 23  
Spangler, Clarence R., Delta, Loco. Engineer, 96, Sept. '78\*  
Swickard, John K., Pueblo, Stationary Engineer, 76,  
Sept. 12  
Toner, Francis J., Denver, Freight Traffic Mgr., 97,  
Sept. '78\*  
Wallberg, Waldemar A., Salt Lake City, Loco. Engineer, 73,  
Oct. 14  
Wenz, Joseph W., Provo, Conductor, 76, Oct. 18  
Zumpano, Frank, Salt Lake City, Shipping Clerk, 88, Nov. 19

\*Reported by Railroad Retirement Board

#### Alex E. Rose Dies

Alex E. Rose, retired manager of insurance, died on December 7, 1978. He was 71. Mr. Rose entered service with the Rio Grande on September 1, 1922 as messenger in the Telegraph Office. He worked as secretary to the superintendent and in the general manager's office and became manager of insurance in 1952. He retired September 1, 1972 with fifty years of service. He was also secretary of the Rio Grande Motor Way and other subsidiaries at the time of his retirement. Survivors are his daughter, Patricia DeGette, and nine grandchildren. A son, Al, died on March 17, 1975 and his wife, Ann, died on March 9, 1975.

## The Grande People Retirements

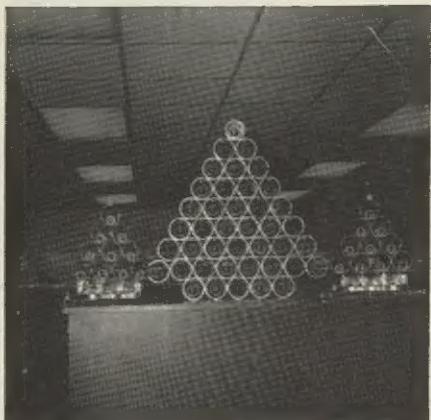
(Years of Service and Date Shown)

Black, Merrill F., Denver, Supt. of Communication, 32,  
Sept. 1  
Campbell, Charles B., Salt Lake City, Loco. Engineer, 37,  
Aug. 28  
Coulson, Jack L., Salt Lake City, Clerk, 36, Aug. 1  
Davis, John L., Salt Lake City, Diesel Mtce. Supervisor, 44,  
Oct. 31  
Denton, Charles H., Steamboat, Section Foreman, 34,  
Oct. 31  
Dolphin, John J., Denver, Clerk, 36, Oct. 31  
Gibson, David H., Price, Loco. Engineer, 32, Sept. 24  
Hall, Aldon W., Pueblo, Clerk, 23, Oct. 19  
Jackson, John R., Denver, Carman Helper, 37, Dec. 4  
Johnson, John H., Salt Lake City, Conductor, 37, July 21  
Jordan, Roy C., Salt Lake City, Loco. Engineer, 36, Oct. 19  
Lopez, Juan, Denver, Section Laborer, 27, Aug. 1  
Mathia, Narvil, Grand Junction, Crew Dispatcher, 37, July 2  
Maxfield, Vern H., Denver, Loco. Engineer, 37, Sept. 26  
Montoya, Flavio, Denver, Section Laborer, 28, May 1, 1977  
Newton, Fred A., Denver, Machinist, 43, Sept. 6  
Reese, Louis A., Salt Lake City, Conductor, 41, Aug. 29  
Sell, Raymond, Denver, Carman, 38, Dec. 15  
Sothman, Harold T., Colorado Springs, Track Supervisor,  
38, Oct. 1  
Thode, Jackson C., Denver, Chief Budget Officer, 42,  
Dec. 31  
Thoreson, Ray J., Salt Lake City, Trainman, 36, Oct. 18  
Trujillo, Louis, Grand Junction, Trainman, 38, Sept. 1  
Turner, Chester R., Denver, Supt. Work Equipment, 22,  
Jan. 31, 1979  
Witherow, Lester C., Salt Lake City, Carman, 31, May 6  
Wick, Walter K., Craig, Engine Watchman, 25, Aug. 1

## RECENT APPOINTMENTS

L. L. Berenberg, Manager-Intermodal Sales, Traffic ..Denver  
L.T. Blair, Train Yard Foreman .....North Yard  
L. D. Busboom, Communications Engineer .....Denver  
L. E. Downey, Relief Terminal Supervisor....Grand Junction  
R. A. Engle, Diesel Maintenance Supervisor .....Roper  
V. J. Fowler, Asst. Trainmaster, Colo. Divn ..Grand Junction  
D.A. Hall, Asst. Trainmaster .....Craig  
K. F. Higham, Asst. Superintendent,  
Utah Divn .....Salt Lake City  
T. R. Lewis, Asst. Road Foreman of Equipment ....Denver  
J. M. Mayer, Asst. Trainmaster .....Clearfield  
C. B. Montoya, Track Supervisor .....Denver  
J. H. Norton, Trainmaster, Utah Divn .....Grand Junction  
J. P. O'Reilly, Trainmaster .....Denver  
D. P. Pearson, Engineering Assistant .....Roper  
K. T. Sanford, Asst. General Attorney .....Denver  
R. V. Schultze, Communications Engineer .....Denver  
J. R. Vialpando, Assistant Roadmaster .....Denver  
N. C. Wiseman, Trainmaster .....Helper

# Season's Greetings



Best wishes  
for  
a  
Grande  
new year



## Green Light

Published Bi-Monthly by the  
Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad  
P. O. Box 548

Address Co H. L. PUTNAM -GL-  
1278 W. WASATCH AVE.  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84104

U. S. Postage Paid  
Bulk Rate  
Denver, Colorado  
Permit No. 213